

Idaho Amphibians

Week 2

Words of the day

- Syn – (prefix) with; together
- Tegmentum – the bundle of fibers that cover the brain
- Aba – garment of camel or goat hair; camel or goat hair fabric
- Ablepsia – blindness
- Jecoral – of, like or pertaining to the liver

Reptile of the Week

- *Underwoodisaurus milii*
- Thick tailed or barking gecko
- Southern to Western Australia in rocky outcrops
- Form aggregates
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_dRO88IMycg



Myth

- The myth about toads and warts is old enough that no one knows who started it, but it likely sprang from the observation that toads often have bumpy skin to aid in camouflaging them from predators. Since the average person in a prescientific era would poorly understand the mechanism by which warts occur, comparing a toad's bumps to the similar bumps caused by warts would be a reasonable explanation for the condition. Unfortunately, the myth persists in the form of an old wives tale.

Semester Ahead

- Frog diversity (Week of 21st)
- Salamanders and caecilians (Week of 28th)
- Exam 1 for class – October 2nd

Idaho species?

- Write all the:
 - Salamanders and Newts
 - Frogs and Toads
- What is the order of each of the groups? How many families are in each group? How many genera are represented in Idaho from each group?

Questions to answer

- Why are many amphibians going extinct? What features of an amphibian cause this?

Pyrons movie

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zDtDtn5n8-A>

New Species

- Describe a rough skinned newt as if it was a new species
- Groups of 3
- No more than 1 page, single space
- Focus on:
 - New name (still in *Taricha*, find a descriptive word instead of *granulosa*)
 - Morphology (adult stage only)
 - Distribution and how it differs from other populations (lack of toxin)
 - Use proper terminology
- Example: A new genus and species of lungless salamander (family Plethodontidae) from the Appalachian highlands of the south-eastern United States

Next week

- Turn in distribution maps with questions
- Turn in description of new species
- There might be a quiz again

- We will be learning about frog diversity